

## Message Text

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15 42S  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 INR-07

SSO-00 NSCE-00 /046 W  
----- 093736

R 261221Z AUG 75  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 340  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC  
CINCPAC HON  
COMUSMACTHAI  
AMCONSUL UDORN  
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 17929

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, ELAB, TH  
SUBJ: THAI SECURITY GUARD STRIKE

REF: BANGKOK 17795

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED AUGUST 22, 1975,  
FROM MANIT UTTASEN, CHAIRMAN, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ADMINISTRATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, NATIONAL  
ASSEMBLY, BANGKOK, THAILAND, TO PRESIDENT FORD.

BEGIN TEXT:

MY DEAR MR, PRESIDENT I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU, MR.  
PRESIDENT, OF A VERY URGENT MATTER VITAL TO THE CLOSE  
RELATIONSHIP OF OUR TWO NATIONS. IT IS CONCERNED WITH  
THE DEMANDS MADE BY THE THAI SECURITY GUARDS WHO HAVE  
SERVED AT THE U.S. MILITARY AIR BASES IN THAILAND AND  
WHO HAVE ON DEMONSTRATION AND VIOLENT STRIKE IN  
SUPPORTING THEIR DEMANDS. PARA THE U.S. EMBASSY  
AND THE THAI GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN WORKING VERY  
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CLOSELY ON SOLVING THIS MATTER AND HAVE ACCOMMODATED  
SOME OF THE DEMANDS SUBMITTED BY THE GUARDS. BUT

THE FOLLOWING ARE STILL OUTSTANDING: (1) THE GUARDS DEMAND FOR A SPECIAL ALLOWANCE PAY OF 85 PER CENT OF THE BASIC PAY FOR THE PERIOD OF THEIR WORK STOPPAGE. BUT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BANGKOK HAS AGREED ONLY TO PAY TO THE GUARDS 75 PER CENT OF THE BASIC PAY;

(2) THE GUARDS DEMAND A LUMP SUM OF WELFARE AND OVERTIME PAY AT THE RATE OF ONE MONTH'S SALARY FOR ONE YEAR'S SERVICE AND SO FORTH. HOWEVER, THE U.S. EMBASSY AGREES TO PAY A LUMP SUM OF 240 BAHT PER PERSON AS HEALTH INSURANCE AND OFF-DUTY SICKNESS BENEFITS WHICH HAVE BEEN PLANNED TO BE GRANTED TO THE GUARDS STARTING FROM FEBRUARY 1975 ONWARDS ON THE BASIS OF 40 BAHT PER MONTH. PARA THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEELS THAT THE THAI SECURITY GUARDS HAVE BEEN SERVING WELL THE INTEREST OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN IMPROVING THE LIFE AND WELFARE OF THESE GUARDS. PARA IT IS A PRIVILEGE FOR ME TO INFORM YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENT OF THIS MATTER AND IT IS MY EARNEST HOPE THAT THROUGH YOUR GOOD OFFICE, YOU MR. PRESIDENT, WILL BE ABLE TO RESOLVE THE MATTER TO THE SATISFACTION OF ALL PARTIES AND TO SHOW TO THE DEVELOPING NATIONS AND THE WORLD THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DO ACCEPT THE LONG ESTABLISHED LEADING ROLE IN THE FREE DEMOCRATIC WORLD AND THE UNFAILING HUMANITARIAN RESPONSIBILITY WHICH THE THAI PEOPLE NEVER FAIL TO APPRECIATE AND GRATIFY. END TEXT.

2. AS MENTIONED REFTTEL, LETTER PURELY POLITICAL IN MOTIVATION AND IN OUR VIEW, DOES NOT MERIT REPLY FROM WHITE HOUSE.

3. RECOMMEND WE ANSWER IT FROM HERE VIA LETTER TO MANIT BEGINNING QTE WE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 22 TO PRESIDENT FORD, ETC. END QTE. LETTER WOULD POINT OUT THAT U.S. IS ALREADY ASSISTING ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT WITH FUNDS NOT REQUIRED BY

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CONTRATUAL AGREEMENT WITH RTG AND THAT NO FURTHER FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

4. WE SEE MERIT IN DISPATCHING REPLY PROMPTLY. OTHERWISE, STRIKING GUARDS MIGHT FEEL ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE THEIR DEMONSTRATIONS AND PROTESTS WHILE AWAITING RESPONSE FROM WASHINGTON.

WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS, SECURITY GUARDS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MILITARY BASES  
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**Draft Date:** 26 AUG 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** MARR, ELAB, TH, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (UTTASEN, MANIT)  
**To:** STATE  
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